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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

559

Memorandum



THE CRISIS
USSR/CUBA

Information as of 0600

29 November 1962

PREPARED FOR THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
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[REDACTED]

TOP SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
☐ Retain class'n ☐ Change class'n to _____
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EO 12356, Sec. 1.3 (b)(2)
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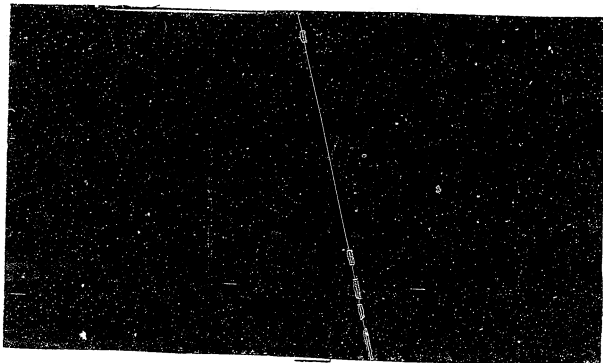
CU-1048

TOP SECRET

29 November 1962

BLCC MILITARY FORCES

General: Following the 21 November announcement that the USSR and other Warsaw Pact countries were cancelling the special military preparedness measures put into effect on 23 October, there have been clear indications of a return to a normal readiness state. It appears likely that all commands have resumed routine activities.



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TOP SECRET

CU-1049

BLOC SHIPPING TO AND FROM CUBA

Ten ships identified with the removal of offensive missile systems from Cuba have arrived at Soviet ports. Nine of the missiles have been delivered to the port of Kaliningrad on the Baltic. One ship still en route will deliver an additional five missiles to that port. The remaining 28 missiles have been delivered to Black Sea ports, 20 to Odessa and 8 to Nikolaev.

[REDACTED] (Technical surveillance of the LABINSK as it passed [REDACTED] gave some very inconclusive indications of the presence of neutron-emitting (plutonium) materials. [REDACTED])

Since 10 November, when the withdrawal of the 42 designated missiles was completed, four additional Soviet ships have loaded missile-associated equipment for return to the USSR. Three of these ships are destined for Baltic ports, and the fourth is bound for the Black Sea.

Details of the voyages of all the ships involved in the removal of missiles are shown in the attached table.

SHIPS EN ROUTE TO CUBA

As of this morning, there were 20 Bloc ships en route to Cuba, including 11 Soviet dry cargo ships, 5 tankers, and 2 passenger ships, and 2 Satellite dry cargo ships. One of the Soviet ships, the KIMOVSK, is a large-hatch ship, one of the 16 ships that turned back to the USSR when the US quarantine was established.

SHIPS IN CUBAN PORTS

There are 12 Soviet dry cargo ships, 3 tankers, and 2 passenger ships in Cuban ports, plus 2 Satellite dry cargo ships. Five of the Soviet ships are large hatch-ships, and they alone represent more than enough capacity to remove the 42 IL-28s to the USSR.

TOP SECRET

CUT-19/4

Soviet Ships Involved in Removal
of Missiles and Associated
Equipment from Cuba

<u>Ship</u>	<u>Departed Cuban Port</u>	<u>Arrived Soviet Port</u>
<u>A. Up to 10 November</u>		
ALAPAEVSK	Isabela, 8 Nov. with associated equipment	Kaliningrad, 23 Nov.
BRATSK	Marinel, 7 Nov. with 2 missiles	Kaliningrad, 24 Nov.
DIVNOGORSK	Marinel, 5 Nov. with 4 missiles	Odessa, 22 Nov.
FIZIK KURCHAT	Casilda, 7 Nov. with 6 missiles	Probably called Nikolaev on 21 Nov.
IVAN POLZUNOV	Havana, 9 Nov., after loading 5 missiles at Marinel	En route, prob- ably to Kalin- ingrad to un- load around 2 Dec. and then to Leningrad
LABINSK	Havana, 9 Nov., after loading 2 missiles	Nikolaev, 26 Nov.
LENINSKY KOMSOMOL	Casilda, 9 Nov. with 8 missiles	Odessa, 25 Nov.
METALLURG ANOSOV	Marinel, 7 Nov. with 8 missiles	Odessa, 22 Nov.
VOLGOLES	Marinel, 8 Nov. with 7 missiles	Kaliningrad, 25 Nov.
ALEXSANDROVSK	Marinel, 5 Nov., with associated equipment	Unidentified northern port --probably Arkhanglsk or Murmansk

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CU 1051

Soviet Ships Involved in Removal
of Missiles and Associated
Equipment from Cuba

(Cond't)

<u>Ship</u>	<u>Departed Cuban Port</u>	<u>Arrived Soviet Port</u>
ALMETEVSK	Isabela, 10 Nov., with associated equipment	May have arrived Kalinin- grad 23 Nov.
B. <u>Ships Removing</u> <u>Associated Equip-</u> <u>ment since 10 No-</u> <u>vember</u>		
AMATA	Unidentified port --probably Mariel --19 Nov.	Bound for Bal- tic; ETA Kat- tegat 6 Dec.
BELOVODSK	Mariel, 16 Nov.	Bound for un- known port, probably in the Baltic
CHERNYAKHOVSK	Unidentified port --probably Mariel --23 Nov.	Bound Baltic; ETA Kattegat, 8 Dec.
EMEL'YAN PUGACHEV	Unidentified port --probably Casilda --25 Nov.	Bound for Black Sea. We estimate arrival on 18 Dec.

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CUBAN INTERNAL SITUATION

The IL-28 bombers are being dismantled. At the same time, work continues on improving or constructing more permanent facilities at some of the Soviet military installations on the island.

Preliminary analysis of high-level photography taken on 27 November shows that all nine IL-28 fuselage crates previously observed at Holguin airfield in eastern Cuba have been removed. At San Julian airfield in western Cuba, photography of 25, 26, and 27 November shows clearly that dismantling of the 13 IL-28s previously observed in various stages of assembly is under way. The additional 20 unpacked IL-28 fuselage crates which have been at San Julian airfield for several weeks were still there on 26 November, but only 13 were seen on the following day.

[REDACTED] Cuban pilots in the USSR were probably continuing their training in IL-28s as recently as 23 November, several days after Moscow and Havana had agreed to withdraw the aircraft from Cuba.

Construction is still under way at the bases of some of the four Soviet armored groups in Cuba. At the Remedios base, for example, work was in progress on 12 barracks as of 26 November. At the Artemisa military camp, foundations for 10 buildings were under construction on 25 November. These buildings may be intended to replace tents, which now provide the main form of shelter at the ground bases.

The 24 Soviet-controlled SAM sites in Cuba remain fully operational, and buildings are still being constructed at some of the sites. Construction also continues on the La Sierra coastal defense cruise-missile site near Cienfuegos in southern Las Villas Province. The other three cruise-missile sites appear to be completed.

The MIG-21C fighters, which are almost certainly operated solely by Soviet pilots, are still operational. Of the 39 MIG-21Cs known to be in Cuba, 37 were observed on airfields near Santa Clara and San Antonio de los Baños on 26 November. Full operational activity has also been maintained on the Cuban early warning radar network, in which Soviet personnel are also participating.

The 12 KOMAR missile patrol boats are still active and are based at the Mariel naval port in western Cuba and the Sanes naval base in eastern Cuba. These boats have been operated by mixed crews of Cubans and Soviets.

No Soviet submarines have been detected in waters near Cuba since the four F-class submarines left the area and headed back toward the USSR about two weeks ago.

[REDACTED] 1.3(a)(4)
E
[REDACTED] It cannot be determined whether more Soviet submarines are scheduled to come into the area.

[REDACTED] continuing demobilization of the Cuban armed forces and the placing of various units in reserve status? 1.3(a)(4)
E
[REDACTED] E

The Cuban civil airline has acquired three Soviet-made IL-18 transports to replace the old Britannias it had been using in its international service. Difficulties in obtaining technical landing and overflight permission from Western governments have delayed Cuban efforts to ferry the planes to Havana.

Cuba's official "answer" on 25 November to President Kennedy sought once again to lay the blame for the "so-called Caribbean crisis" entirely on the United States. Issued shortly after Mikoyan's "farewell" speech in Cuba, the statement warned that Cuba reserves the right "to acquire arms of any kind for its defense." The claim was made once again that Cuba would accept international inspection only if the UN were to inspect the territory of the US, Puerto Rico, and "other aggressive sites." The communiqué also described Castro's five points as "indispensable for the real solution of the crisis."

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Cuban exiles reacted with mixed feelings to ending of the quarantine. Many initially expressed bitterness and the feeling that the US had let them down. Some of the more activist leaders, and those who regard Castro as primarily a problem for Cubans to deal with, expressed gratification and confidence in Castro's eventual overthrow. One leader declared that plans for further hit-and-run raids on Cuban targets would now be resumed.

SOVIET POSITION

In his 28 November discussion with US officials, Mikoyan made it clear that the USSR's principal objections to the US draft declaration were:

(1) The extensive conditions the US was now applying to assurances against invasion of Cuba.

(2) US insistence on the need for continued aerial reconnaissance of Cuba. Calling the US draft declaration a "bad one," Mikoyan charged that the US position on guarantees against invasion, as now stated, was a "direct retreat from the statement in the President's letter (27 October)." He specifically cited the US stipulation that if Cuba takes any action which the US regards as jeopardizing the security of the Caribbean, then US obligations against invasion would lapse.

During the discussion, Mikoyan continued to maintain that the wording in the US draft declaration should conform to the language used in the exchange of correspondence between President Kennedy and Premier Khrushchev.

Communist China continues to exacerbate the Sino-Soviet dispute with its oblique attacks on the Soviet Union for retreating in the face of the US stand in Cuba. A 29 November People's Daily editorial, in support of Castro's 25 November demands for reciprocal inspection and insistence on the cessation of US aerial reconnaissance, implicitly accuses Moscow for being intimidated by "US nuclear blackmail."

TOP SECRET